



I do hereby certify this to be a complete, accurate, and true copy of the document which is on file or is of record in the offices of the Texas Board of Nursing.
William O'Hanrahan
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of	§	AGREED
Vocational Nurse License Number 174528	§	
issued to CARLA DENISE WASHINGTON	§	ORDER

An investigation by the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, produced evidence indicating that CARLA DENISE WASHINGTON, Vocational Nurse License Number 174528, hereinafter referred to as Respondent, may be subject to discipline pursuant to Sections 301.452(b)(13) and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.

An informal conference was held on November 18, 2014, at the office of the Texas Board of Nursing, in accordance with Section 301.464, Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent appeared in person. Respondent was represented by Taralynn R. Mackay, Attorney at Law. In attendance were Kristin Benton, MSN, RN, Director of Nursing, Executive Director's Designee; John F. Legris, Assistant General Counsel; Anthony L. Diggs, MSCJ, Director, Enforcement Division; Skylar Caddell, RN-BC, Nurse Investigator Specialist; Tabitha Langford, RN Investigator; and Molly Omelchuck, RN, Investigator.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these Findings of Fact was served on Respondent and Respondent was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license(s).
2. Respondent waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
3. Respondent's license to practice as a vocational nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.

4. Respondent received a certificate in Vocational Nursing from Amarillo College, Amarillo, Texas, on May 27, 1999. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on November 17, 1999.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

11/1999-12/2000		Unknown
1/2001 - 3/2004	Staff Nurse	Bivins Memorial Nursing Home Amarillo, Texas
3/2004 - 6/2006	Staff Nurse	Plum Creek Health Care Amarillo, Texas
4/2006 - Present	Staff Nurse	Cedar Hill Health Care Cedar Hill, Texas
11/2011 - Unknown	Staff Nurse	Windsor Gardens Lancaster, Texas
7/2012 - 8/2013	Staff Nurse	Lancaster Nursing and Rehabilitation Center Lancaster, Texas
9/2013 - Present	Staff Nurse	Cedar Hill Health Care Cedar Hill, Texas

6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse with Lancaster Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Lancaster, Texas, and had been in this position for one (1) year and one (1) month.

7. On or about August 20, 2013, while employed with Lancaster Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Lancaster, Texas, Respondent failed to ensure that Patient Number 145960 received a comprehensive physical assessment by a Staff Registered Nurse based on the Case Manager's recommendation to transfer the patient to the hospital in response to having blood in his urine and altered mental status. Subsequently, the Nurse Manager only performed a focused assessment and reported to the Director of Nursing (DON) that the patient had blood in his urine but omitted reporting the altered mental status. Therefore, the DON instructed that the physician be called only for an order for a urinalysis test. The patient became unresponsive and expired approximately ninety (90) minutes later. Respondent's conduct unnecessarily exposed the patient to a risk of harm from clinical care decisions formulated based on incomplete assessment information.

8. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that the Nurse Manager called the DON informing her of the patient's status and asked that the patient be transferred out, but the DON refused to authorize the transfer. Respondent states she would have called 911 if the Resident needed emergency intervention.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.555, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
2. Notice was served in accordance with law.
3. The evidence received is sufficient to prove violation(s) of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(M),(1)(N),(1)(P)&(2)(A).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 174528, heretofore issued to CARLA DENISE WASHINGTON.

TERMS OF ORDER

I. SANCTION AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of **REMEDIAL EDUCATION** in accordance with the terms of this Order.

- A. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- B. This Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- C. Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state without first obtaining the written permission of the Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the nurse licensure compact party state where Respondent wishes to work.

II. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW

While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT agrees to comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, §§301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§211.1 *et seq.*, and this Order.

III. REMEDIAL EDUCATION COURSE(S)

In addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may require for licensure renewal, RESPONDENT SHALL successfully complete the following remedial education course(s) within one (1) year of the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise specifically indicated:

- A. A Board-approved course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics that shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course's content shall include the Nursing Practice Act, standards of practice, documentation of care, principles of nursing ethics, confidentiality, professional boundaries, and the Board's Disciplinary Sanction Policies regarding: Sexual Misconduct; Fraud, Theft and Deception; Nurses with Substance Abuse, Misuse, Substance Dependency, or other Substance Use Disorder; and Lying and Falsification. Courses focusing on malpractice issues will not be accepted. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved.
- B. A Board-approved course in physical assessment with a didactic portion of not less than six (6) hours and a clinical component of not less than twenty-four (24) hours. Both the didactic and clinical components must be provided by the same Registered Nurse. The course's content shall include physical assessment of all body systems. The clinical component SHALL include physical assessment of live patients in a clinical setting; Performing assessments on mock patients or mannequins WILL NOT be accepted. The course description shall indicate goals and objectives for the course, resources to be utilized, and the methods to be used to determine successful completion of the course. Successful completion of this course requires RESPONDENT to successfully complete both the didactic and clinical portions of the course.
- C. The course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills," a 3.6 contact hour online program provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Learning Extension.

In order to receive credit for completion of this/these course(s), RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form or SHALL submit the continuing education certificate, as applicable, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office. RESPONDENT SHALL first obtain Board approval of any course prior to enrollment if the course is not being offered by a pre-approved provider. *Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.*

IV. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

Upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, all encumbrances will be removed from RESPONDENT'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and RESPONDENT may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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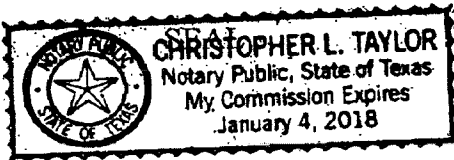
RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that when this Order becomes final and the terms of this Order become effective, a copy will be mailed to me. I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order, I will be subject to investigation and disciplinary sanction, including possible revocation of my license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 10th day of February, 2015.

Carla Denise Washington
CARLA DENISE WASHINGTON, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th day of February, 2015.



[Signature]
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

Approved as to form and substance.

Taralynn R. Mackey
Taralynn R. Mackey, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 13th day of February, 2015.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 10th day of February, 2015, by CARLA DENISE WASHINGTON, Vocational Nurse License Number 174528, and said Order is final.

Effective this 13th day of February, 2015.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Katherine A. Thomas".

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director on behalf
of said Board